(iii) District Collectors have been made responsible for the proper organization of the Gram Sabha wherever required under the Act.

(iv) The Gram Sabha and Ward Sabha are to identify and select the projects to be taken up in the Gram Panchayat. Gram Sabha will be held regularly to ensure social audit. All information relating to flow of funds, works, workers, muster rolls, measurement books, sanction orders, cash book and all other records and registers shall be placed in the Gram Sabha. There shall be video documentation of the proceedings of all Gram Sabhas.

Viability of SEZs in present economic scenario

*139. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has done any study or assessed the impact of the recent global economic slowdown on the use and future of the numerous Special Economic Zones (SEZs) sanctioned in the country in the last two years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the international economic slowdown will have an impact on Indian exports;

(c) if so, whether Government will do a re-think on the utility of the SEZs in the near future;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the targets of new units have fallen behind in the SEZs; and

(e) the steps proposed by Government to review the viability of SEZs in the present economic scenario?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. SEZs have made significant contribution to the exports from the country. Exports for 2007-08 from SEZs were around Rs. 66,638 crores and during April, 2008 to December, 2008 exports have been around Rs. 66,160 crores. It is expected that SEZs would generate exports of around Rs. 90,000 crores for the year 2008-09. SEZs have also brought in investments of around Rs. 1,01,906 crores so far. Therefore, there is no need to rethink on the utility of the SEZs in the near future.

(d) No specific targets have been set by Government for the SEZ units as these are in either private sector or joint sector.

(e) Does not arise in view of the above.

Habitations under PMGSY

†*140. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the details of unconnected habitations having population of 250, 500 and 1000 under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the details of reasons for not connecting these habitations;

(c) by when these habitations are likely to be connected;

(d) the details of funds released under this scheme during the last three years, State-wise; and

(e) the details of habitations which were connected by roads under this scheme during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (e) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) envisages all weather connectivity to all habitations with population 250 or more in Hill States (North-East, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand), Desert Areas (as identified in Desert Development Programme) and Tribal (Schedule V) Areas and 500 or more in other parts of the country as per 2001 census. As a part of Bharat Nirman initiative, all habitations with population 500 or more in Hill States (North-East, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand), Desert Areas (as identified in Desert Development Programme) and Tribal (Schedule V) Areas and all habitations with population of 1000 or more in other parts of the country are targeted to be connected by all weather roads under the scheme.

Out of 1.67 lakh unconnected habitations eligible under PMGSY, clearance has been accorded to projects worth Rs. 88,625.02 crore for construction/upgradation of 3,48,494.10 km. of rural roads which will provide all weather connectivity to 86,709 eligible habitations. Out of this, 53,555 habitations have already been connected under PMGSY and works are in different stages of execution for connecting other habitations. State-wise details of status of connectivity of habitations having population 250, 500 and 1000 or more eligible under PMGSY have been given in Statement-I. (*See* below).

As per PMGSY guideline, habitations with population 1000 and more have been assigned priority I followed by habitations with populations more than 500. Eligible habitations with population 250 and more but less than 500 have been assigned priority III. This priority is generally followed while taking up road works for construction by the States.

It is expected that Bharat Nirman targets will be achieved by end of Financial Year 2009-10 and the remaining habitations eligible under PMGSY are expected to be provided with all weather connectivity by end of Twelfth Five Year Plan.

State-wise details of fund released during last three years including FY 2008-09 are given as Statement-II. (*See* below).

Details of habitations connected under PMGSY in last three years including FY 2008-09 is given in Statement-III.

Statement-I

State-wise connectivity status of Habitations under the PMGSY

#	States	Eligible unconnected Habitations			Eligible Habitations being covered under PMGSY			Eligible Habitations covered by other Schemes			Habitations covered incidentally			Balance Habitations to be covered		
		1000+	500-999	250-499	1000+	500-999	250-499	1000+	500-999	250-499	1000+	500-1000	250-500	1000+	500-999	250-499
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	167	417	396	160	399	354	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	18	42
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	49	127	290	44	97	167	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	30	123
3.	Assam	7323	4862	0	5079	2202	0	1308	0	0	0	0	1399	936	2660	0
4.	Bihar	8187	1847	0	5579	1373	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2608	474	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	1660	4507	3688	1653	3564	1511	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	943	2177
6.	Goa	0	20	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	442	2065	1154	390	1555	72	25	176	170	0	0	0	27	334	912
8.	Haryana	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	236	982	2643	217	836	1112	13	93	0	0	0	0	6	53	1531
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	785	942	1065	632	444	214	17	38	13	0	0	0	136	460	838
11.	Jharkhand	2637	4327	3042	1710	1328	909	869	955	412	0	0	0	58	2044	1721

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
12.	Karnataka	156	118	0	151	118	0	5	0	0	0	0	418	0	0	0
13.	Kerala	121	333	0	118	317	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	3	16	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5982	10949	2684	5929	3754	1109	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	7195	1575
15.	Maharashtra	201	912	812	177	670	230	19	133	212	0	0	0	5	109	370
16.	Manipur	80	211	363	72	122	87	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	89	276
17.	Meghalaya	9	150	597	6	83	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	67	537
18.	Mizoram	32	104	115	31	60	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	44	89
19.	Nagaland	24	44	48	24	41	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	22
20.	Orissa	3703	6715	7921	3408	2414	1214	78	19	0	0	0	0	217	4282	6707
21.	Punjab	103	433	0	94	324	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	109	0
22.	Rajasthan	2725	6428	2082	2688	6178	1984	37	250	98	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.	Sikkim	16	138	164	16	138	142	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
24.	Tamil Nadu	577	1825	0	549	1375	0	9	177	0	0	0	0	19	273	0
25.	Tripura	169	606	1177	159	564	867	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	42	310
26.	Uttar Pradesh	10898	17944	0	7408	3830	0	3369	10681	0	0	0	645	121	3433	0
27.	Uttaranchal	152	690	1689	119	325	258	18	29	30	0	0	0	15	336	1401
28.	West Bengal	12790	10142	0	5420	2403	0	0	0	0	0	0	1013	7370	7739	0

Statement-II

Releases of funds to the States under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the last three years

Sl. No	Name of States	2006-07 Release	2007-08 Release	2008-09 Release as on 31.12.2008
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	155.09	316.57	350.60
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	54.22	102.03	71.49
3.	Assam	431.05	555.00	692.45
4.	Bihar	570.50	733.06	653.96
5.	Chhattisgarh	708.52	1050.89	337.12
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.0
7.	Gujarat	117.20	144.56	170.81
8.	Haryana	200.43	216.21	182.02
9.	Himachal Pradesh	139.90	320.58	123.58
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	72.74	91.74
11.	Jharkhand	56.83	0.00	79.4
12.	Karnataka	45.73	271.49	272.46
13.	Kerala	15.00	24.68	34.02
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1165.27	1615.66	1187.58
15.	Maharashtra	108.85	563.96	500
16.	Manipur	0.00	78.99	0
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	15.9
18.	Mizoram	27.00	21.96	40
19.	Nagaland	0.00	12.51	85.71
20.	Orissa	641.78	546.83	731.63
21.	Punjab	80.63	360.21	143.42
22.	Rajasthan	1154.06	1646.64	1204.54
23.	Sikkim	36.85	174.51	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	20.00	71.03	48.68

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Tripura	74.50	143.00	303.98
26.	Uttar Pradesh	325.19	1228.40	920.16
27.	Uttaranchal	12.79	78.74	86.66
28.	West Bengal	123.69	549.69	396.33
	TOTAL	6265.08	10899.94	8724.24

Statement-III

Details of Habitations connected during last three years under PMGSY

Sl. No	State	Habitation connected during 06-07	Habitation connected during 07-08	Habitation connected during April, 2008 to January, 2009
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21	1	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	36	16
3.	Assam	826	843	289
4.	Bihar (REO)	1029	59	21
	Bihar (NEA)	44	170	125
5.	Chhattisgarh	902	1097	908
6.	Goa	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	280	255	231
8.	Haryana	0	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	307	295	303
10.	Jammu and Kashmir*	0	49	81
11.	Jharkhand	139	130	124
12.	Karnataka	0	12	0
13.	Kerala	57	24	43
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1427	2032	1377
15.	Maharashtra	332	41	48
16.	Manipur	0	0	23
17.	Meghalaya	13	9	9

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Mizoram	1	14	7
19.	Nagaland	0	5	10
20.	Orissa	543	490	628
21.	Punjab	23	0	0
22.	Rajasthan	1998	3055	1102
23.	Sikkim	11	10	31
24.	Tamil Nadu	147	185	104
25.	Tripura	80	75	128
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1497	1268	902
27.	Uttarakhand	21	72	82
28.	West Bengal	1087	1109	417
	GRAND TOTAL	10801	11336	7009

* State modified Habitations connected in Phase-I and II *vide* letter No. CE/PMGSY/J/4429-30 dated 28.12.2007

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Genetically modified food products

857. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that imported Genetically Modified (GM) food products are entering Indian supermarkets and food chains unchecked;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has taken any action to check the illegal entry of GM food products; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) As per the Foreign Trade Policy, the import of Genetically Modified Organism (GMOs) and Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) for the purpose of (i) Research and Development (R & D); (ii) Food; (iii) Feed; (iv) Processing in Bulk and (v) for Environment release will be governed by the provisions of the Environment Protection Act 1986 and Rules 1989. The import of any Food, Feed, raw or